

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A method for providing search results, comprising:
 - receiving a search query;
 - receiving first search results based at least in part on a search performed using the search query;
 - performing a search of a history database using the search query to obtain second search results, the history database storing information regarding prior document accesses;
 - modifying the first search results based at least in part on the second search results; and
 - outputting the modified first search results.
2. The method of claim 1, wherein the receiving first search results includes:
 - transmitting the search query to an external search engine, the search engine generating the first search results;
 - intercepting the first search results, and
 - parsing the first search results to identify information contained in the first search results.
3. The method of claim 1, wherein the performing a search of a history database includes:
 - identifying one or more search terms used in the search query,
 - using the one or more search terms to search the history database.
4. The method of claim 3, wherein the one or more search terms are identified from information returned from a search engine.

5. The method of claim 1, wherein the first search results include links to documents.
6. The method of claim 1, further comprising:
ranking the second search results by at least one of date, relevancy to the search query, and how much the second search results are thought to be liked by a user.
7. The method of claim 1, wherein the modifying the first search results includes:
determining whether a top one or more of the second search results are included in the first search results, and
adding the top one or more of the second search results to the first search results when the top one or more of the second search results are not included in the first search results.
8. The method of claim 7, wherein the adding the top one or more of the second search results includes:
placing the top one or more of the second search results at a prominent position in the first search results.
9. The method of claim 8, wherein the adding the top one or more of the second search results further includes:
highlighting the top one or more of the second search results at the prominent position in the first search results.

10. The method of claim 1, wherein the modifying the first search results includes:
determining whether one or more of the second search results are included in the first
search results, and
reordering the first search results when the one or more of the second search results are
included in the first search results.
11. The method of claim 10, wherein the reordering the first search results includes:
moving positions of the one or more of the second search results within the first search
results.
12. The method of claim 11, wherein the moving positions of the one or more of the
second search results includes moving the one or more of the second search results a
predetermined number of positions toward a top of the first search results.
13. The method of claim 12, wherein the predetermined number of positions is user-
configurable.
14. The method of claim 1, wherein the modifying the first search results includes:
determining whether one or more of the second search results are included in the first
search results, and
highlighting the first search results when the one or more of the second search results are
included in the first search results.

15. The method of claim 1, wherein the modifying the first search results includes:
analyzing the first search results against the information in the history database, and
reordering the first search results based at least in part on the analysis.
16. The method of claim 15, wherein the reordering the first search results includes
moving positions of one or more of the first search results when the one or more of the first
search results match information in the history database.
17. The method of claim 1, wherein the second search results are associated with
local documents.
18. The method of claim 17, wherein the local documents include at least one of e-
mails, images, application files, audio files, and video files.
19. The method of claim 1, wherein the second search results are associated with
local documents and non-local documents.
20. A system for providing search results, comprising:
means for obtaining first search results based at least in part on a search performed on a
document corpus using a search query;
means for generating second search results based at least in part on a search performed on
information regarding prior document accesses using the search query;

modifying the first search results based at least in part on the second search results; and
outputting the modified first search results.

21. A system, comprising:

a history database configured to store information regarding prior document accesses by a user; and

a browser assistant configured to:

obtain first search results based at least in part on a search performed on a document corpus using a search query,

obtain second search results based at least in part on a search performed on the history database using the search query,

modify the first search results based at least in part on the second search results, and

present the modified first search results to the user.

22. A computer-readable medium that stores instructions executable by at least one processor to perform a method for providing search results, the computer-readable medium comprising:

instructions for obtaining a search query;

instructions for obtaining first search results based at least in part on a search performed using the search query;

instructions for performing a search of a history database using the search query to obtain second search results, the history database storing information regarding previous document accesses;

instructions for modifying the first search results based at least in part on the second search results; and

instructions for presenting the modified first search results.

23. A method for providing search results, comprising:

receiving search results based at least in part on a search performed using a search query;

determining whether one or more of the search results correspond to information in a history database that stores information regarding prior document accesses;

reordering the search results when the one or more search results correspond to information in the history database to form reordered search results; and

outputting the reordered search results.

24. The method of claim 23, wherein the receiving search results includes:

transmitting the search query to an external search engine, the search engine generating the search results;

intercepting the search results, and

parsing the search results to identify information contained in the search results.

25. The method of claim 23, wherein the reordering the search results includes moving positions of the one or more of the search results when the one or more of the search results correspond to information in the history database.

26. The method of claim 25, wherein the moving positions of the one or more search results includes:

moving a position of a first one of the one or more of the search results in a direction toward a top of the search results based at least in part on information in the history database, and

moving a position of a second one of the one or more of the search results in a direction toward a bottom of the search results based at least in part on information in the history database.

27. The method of claim 25, further comprising:

highlighting the one or more of the search results.

28. The method of claim 25, wherein the moving positions of the one or more search results includes moving the one or more search results a predetermined number of positions toward either a top or a bottom of the search results.

29. The method of claim 28, wherein the predetermined number of positions is user-configurable.

30. The method of claim 28, wherein the predetermined number of positions is based, at least in part, on one or more thresholds.

31. The method of claim 23, further comprising:

permitting a user to turn on and off the reordering of the search results.

32. A system for providing search results, comprising:

means for obtaining search results;

means for determining whether one or more of the search results correspond to information in a history database that stores information regarding prior document accesses;

means for moving positions of the one or more search results within the search results to form modified search results when the one or more search results correspond to information in the history database; and

means for presenting the modified search results.

33. A system, comprising:

a history database configured to store information regarding prior document accesses;

and

a browser assistant configured to:

obtain search results,

determine whether one or more of the search results correspond to information stored in the history database,

reorder the search results when the one or more search results correspond to information stored in the history database to form reordered search results, and present the reordered search results.

34. The system of claim 33, wherein the history database stores information associated with local documents.

35. The system of claim 34, wherein the local documents include at least one of e-mails, images, application files, audio files, and video files.

36. A computer-readable medium that stores instructions for causing at least one processor to perform a method for providing search results, the computer-readable medium comprising:

instructions for obtaining search results based at least in part on a search performed using a search query;

instructions for determining whether one or more of the search results correspond to information stored in a history database, the history database being configured to store information regarding prior document accesses;

instructions for modifying the search results when the one or more search results correspond to information stored in the history database to form modified search results; and instructions for presenting the modified search results.

37. A method for searching a history database, comprising:

storing information regarding prior document accesses in a history database;
receiving a search query;
searching the history database based at least in part on the search query to obtain search results;
ranking the search results using at least one of a plurality of parameters; and
outputting the ranked search results.

38. The method of claim 37, wherein the storing information regarding prior document accesses includes storing at least one of text of a document, size of a document, and supporting images from a document.

39. The method of claim 37, wherein the storing information regarding prior document accesses includes storing at least one of a number of times that a document was accessed by a user, at least one date on which a document was accessed by a user, at least one time at which a document was accessed by a user, and an amount of time that a user spent accessing a document.

40. The method of claim 37, wherein the storing information regarding prior document accesses includes storing a ranking of a document by a user.

41. The method of claim 37, wherein the storing information regarding prior document accesses includes recording information regarding all document accesses by a user.

42. The method of claim 37, wherein the storing information regarding prior document accesses includes:

- setting one or more thresholds,
- comparing information associated with a user's access of a document to the one or more thresholds, and
- storing information associated with the document in the history database based at least in part on a result of the comparison.

43. The method of claim 37, wherein the ranking the search results includes ordering the search results by at least one of date, relevancy to the search query, and how much documents associated with the search results are thought to be liked by a user.

44. The method of claim 43, wherein ordering by date includes sorting the search results based at least in part on when documents associated with the search results were last accessed by the user.

45. The method of claim 43, wherein ordering by relevancy includes sorting the search results based at least in part on a ranking of documents associated with the search results obtained from a server.

46. The method of claim 43, wherein ordering by how much the search results are thought to be liked by a user includes sorting the search results based at least in part on ratings corresponding to documents associated with the search results.

47. The method of claim 43, wherein ordering by how much the search results are thought to be liked by a user includes sorting the search results based at least in part on a frequency at which the user accessed documents associated with the search results.

48. The method of claim 43, wherein ordering by how much the search results are thought to be liked by a user includes sorting the search results based at least in part on an amount of time that the user spent accessing documents associated with the search results.

49. The method of claim 37, wherein the outputting the ranked search results includes:

presenting one or more advertisements that relate to the search query along with the ranked search results.

50. The method of claim 37, wherein the presenting one or more advertisements includes:

sending the search query to an external device, and
obtaining, from the external device, the one or more advertisements that relate to the search query.

51. A system for searching a history database, comprising:
means for selectively storing information regarding prior document accesses in a history database;

means for receiving a search query;
means for generating search results based at least in part on a search of the history database using the search query;
means for ranking the search results using at least one of a plurality of parameters; and
means for presenting the ranked search results.

52. A system, comprising:

a history database configured to store information regarding prior document accesses;

and

a browser assistant configured to:

obtain search results based at least in part on a search of the history database using a search query,

sort the search results using at least one of a plurality of parameters, and
output the sorted search results.

53. A computer-readable medium that stores instructions executable by at least one processor for performing a method for providing a prior history search, the computer-readable medium comprising:

instructions for receiving a search query;

instructions for searching a database of information regarding prior document accesses based at least in part on the search query to obtain search results;

instructions for ranking the search results using at least one of a plurality of parameters;

and

instructions for outputting the ranked search results.

54. A method comprising:

receiving a search query;

searching a history database based at least in part on the search query to obtain search results, the history database storing information regarding previous document accesses; obtaining one or more advertisements relating to the search query; and presenting the search results and the one or more advertisements.

55. The method of claim 54, wherein the obtaining one or more advertisements includes:

sending the search query to an external server, and

obtaining, from the external server, the one or more advertisements that relate to the search query.

56. A method for providing search results, comprising:

receiving a search query;

receiving first search results based at least in part on a search performed using the search query;

performing a search of a history database using the search query to obtain second search results, the history database storing information regarding prior document accesses;

presenting the first search results and the second search results.

57. The method of claim 56, wherein the presenting the first search results and the second search results includes placing the first search results in a first window and the second search results in a second window.

58. The method of claim 57, wherein the second window is one of a pop-up and a drop-down window.

59. The method of claim 56, wherein the presenting the first search results and the second search results includes incorporating the first search results and the second search results in a same window.